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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON** (publ)
[SE/SE]; S-126 25 Stockholm (SE).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **SCHUMANN-OLSEN, Reidar** [NO/NO]; Nøtteknekkeren 34, N-3400 Lier (NO).

(74) Agent: **OSLO PATENTKONTOR AS**; Postboks 7007 M, N-0306 Oslo (NO).

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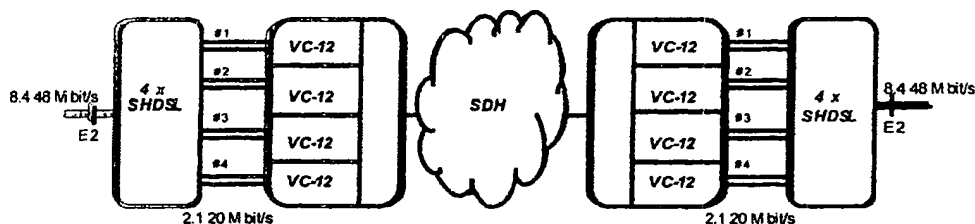
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(54) Title: **METHOD OF TRANSPORTING DATA STREAMS THROUGH AN SDH SWITCHED NETWORK**



(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses a method transporting bit rates through Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (SDH) switched networks with bit rates not specified in the SDH standard. According to the present invention, a bit stream is demultiplexed onto a number of SHDSL lines which in turn are mapped into SDH C-12 data containers. To match the bit rates of each of the SHDSL lines to the C-12 containers, both the data bit positions (D-bits) and the unused overhead bit positions (R-bits) of the C-12 containers are utilised. The present invention is best adapted to demultiplex bit rates of about 8 Mbit/s onto four SHDSL lines as the bit rate of each of the SHDSL line then gives a perfect match of the number of repeating R-bits in the C-12 container.

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